THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Drugs Controller General (India) has approved Mifepristone 200mg tablet (Abortion Pill) for the medical termination of intrauterine pregnancy, subject to the condition that it should be sold by retail on the prescription of Gynaecologists only and the product should be used only under supervision of Gynaecologists and in hospitals where backup facilities are available for blood transfusion and medical termination of pregnancy.

Use of old anti-rabies vaccine

†518. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that instead of using new vaccine for prevention of Rabies disease caused by mad dogs bite, old vaccine is being used in the Government hospitals;

(b) whether Government have made any inquiry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the said inquiry and the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Two types of vaccines, namely Neural Tissue Vaccine (NTV) and Tissue Culture Anti Rabies Vaccine (TCARV) to prevent rabies are in use by the Government hospitals. The neuro-paralytic reactions due to the old vaccine, *i.e.* NTV are very rare, as no death has been reported after administration of this vaccine. In view of WHO's recommendations to prefer the use of TCARV, a decision has been taken to phase out NTV gradually.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

†519. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Janani Suraksha Yojana" has been started for women in order to bring down maternal mortality rate and infant mortality rate by providing the facility of safe child-birth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.